

United States. Participants are expected to assist in planning topical meetings in Washington, and are encouraged to host one or two staff people in their Member's district over the Fourth of July, or to arrange for such a visit to another Member's district.

Participants will be selected by a committee composed of U.S. Information Agency [USIA] personnel and past participants of the exchange.

Senators and Representatives who would like a member of their staff to apply for participation in this year's program should direct them to submit a résumé and cover letter in which they state why they believe they are qualified, and some assurances of their ability to participate during the time stated. Applications should be sent to Kathie Scarrah, c/o Senator JOSEPH I. LIEBERMAN, 316 Hart Senate Office Building, by Wednesday, February 15.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ALASKA PENINSULA SUBSURFACE CONSOLIDATION ACT OF 1995

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 19, 1995

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, today I am reintroducing legislation directing the Department of the Interior to acquire subsurface inholdings in three conservation system units. Under this legislation, entitled the "Alaska Peninsula Subsurface Consolidation Act of 1995," the United States would acquire 275,000 acres of oil and gas properties in the Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve, the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge, and Becharof National Wildlife Refuge in exchange for Federal properties of equal value in Alaska.

The subsurface properties are currently owned by an Alaska Native corporation, Koniag, Inc., which received them under the terms of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971. By an accident of geography, Koniag, the regional corporation of the Kodiak Archipelago, was unable to realize its full entitlement of land within the Kodiak area under ANCSA. The prior establishment of the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge and the limitations of the islands forced Congress to redraw the regional corporation boundaries and grant Koniag and other Kodiak corporations rights on the Alaska Peninsula. Most of these rights were exchanged in 1980, but these subsurface holdings remain. Implementation of this bill will finally remove Koniag from the area and allow the Federal agencies better management capability.

Under the terms of the bill I am introducing, after a standard risk adjusted appraisal of the oil and gas rights, Koniag will exchange these holdings for Federal property in Alaska of equal value. In the event that Koniag and the Secretary of the Interior are unable after 5 years to swap lands accounting for the full value of the oil and gas, then Koniag will be given credits equal to the remaining untraded value of the rights. With these credits, Koniag or its assignee may bid on other Federal surplus properties. Any income from the disposal of its assets by Koniag will be shared with other Alaska Native corporations just as oil

and gas income is shared under the terms of ANCSA section 7(i).

Mr. Speaker, a version of this bill has been considered and passed the House in 1992. Another version was approved by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee in 1994. But we have never been able to get the bill all the way through the process. I hope to change that this year.

I have made a few changes in the bill which I am introducing today. The major change is to delete the wilderness designations which have previously been part of the bill. It was my hope that moderate wilderness designations in the bill would help the bill's consideration in this body and with the administration. Despite the courtesy and fair consideration by former Chairman MILLER, we were unable to move the bill last year. At the same time, the wilderness provisions drew opposition from other native corporations, local governments, and the State of Alaska.

I have also made minor changes to the sections of the bill regarding the mineral appraisal and the property account in response to suggestions made by the Department of the Interior and Office of Management and Budget. These provisions are similar to those in the bill approved by the Senate last session and were acceptable to the Congressional Budget Office. If there are other improvements which can be made to the bill, I will entertain them during the hearing process.

I look forward to working with the Secretary, with Mr. MILLER and the other members of the Resources Committee. I am confident we can resolve this long overdue issue for the benefit of the Alaskan Native community and for the American people.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "SOUTHWEST PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY"

HON. RONALD D. COLEMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 19, 1995

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that was passed overwhelmingly in the House but killed by the other body during the 103d Congress. The "Southwest Public Health Laboratory" was included in the conference report to S. 1569, the Minority Health Improvement Act of 1994.

This cooperative regional environmental laboratory would supplement existing public health laboratories within the border States. This is necessary due to the fact that State health departments have had difficulty meeting the increasing demands being made on them over the past several years. Basic duties, such as oversight of environmental conditions to reduce and eliminate health hazards, have become increasingly difficult to sustain due to tight budget constraints and increasing public health problems.

A recent incidental discovery of highly toxic fish in the Rio Grande exemplifies the need for additional laboratory capacity and the difficulty in detecting some of these potential health threats. In fact, polluted water and contaminated food cause much higher rates of gastrointestinal and other diseases along the border than in the rest of the United States. For example, hepatitis A is two to three times more prevalent along the border than in the United

States as a whole. This is a critical problem in my home county of El Paso. The rate of amebiasis, a parasitic infestation, is three times higher along the border than in the rest of the United States and the rate of shigellosis, a bacterial infection, is two times higher. These diseases don't check with immigration or customs inspectors for either country before crossing borders, nor do they remain at the border. Once these diseases are in the United States they become a public health problem for the entire country.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation. This will not only benefit the southwestern border region, but the entire U.S. population.

A SPECIAL "DEAN"

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 19, 1995

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, the most recent edition of the Empire State Report, January 1995, contains an excellent article about the Washington based correspondent for the Watertown Daily Times known to those of us in the New York delegation as the Dean. Alan Emory has served his newspaper and the people of the north country for 43 years with distinction, style, and grace.

Recognition from our peers is always a treasured commodity. Last December, Alan was elected president of the Gridiron Club, an association of Washington journalists, because of his long-time service and professional dedication to his chosen field of endeavor. He is respected and admired within the fraternity of journalism as this honor clearly indicates. Among those in Congress who respond to his inquiries, Alan is known for his fairness and integrity. This in itself is the mark of a true professional.

I am enclosing the above-mentioned article for the RECORD. It is a well deserved tribute for one of the true gentlemen in journalism today.

THE DEAN

[By Jonathan D. Salant]

At one of U.S. Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan's infrequent gatherings for the Washington press corps from New York newspapers, a *New York Times* reporter attempted to sit in the front row.

"No, no, no," Moynihan sputters. "That's the dean's seat."

The "dean" in this case refers to Alan Emory, the 72-year-old correspondent for the *Watertown Daily Times*. Most of the reporters who join Emory weren't born when he came to Washington 43 years ago, the result of an effort by his publisher to give the readers something more in exchange for a price hike. The rest of the New York press corps watches Emory take his seat in front and pour a cup of coffee for the senator. They sit silent deferentially to allow Emory to ask the first question, much as the senior wire service reporter opens presidential news conferences.

Emory began covering Washington before Moynihan, who later served in the administration of four presidents, began his career in public service as an aide to then-Gov. Averell Harriman. Emory has covered Govs. Thomas Dewey, Harriman, Nelson Rockefeller, Malcolm Wilson, Hugh Carey and Mario Cuomo. He has covered Sens. Irving